

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraphs [0005] and [0075] with the following amended paragraphs:

[0005] To solve the above problem, the invention of claim 1 is an assist transportation method for reducing a load applied to a worker or operator when the worker operates transportation means to transport a product, in which when the product contacts with an obstacle, the product is floated from the transportation means to moderate the impact, the displacement value of the product due to floating is detected, the displacement value is processed to compute a reaction force due to the impact, and the reaction force is communicated to the worker.

[0075] The position instruction computing portion 62 computes reaction-force generation data f in accordance with the information on the displacement value x . In this case, by assuming $f=Kx$, it is possible to create rigidity feeling as a spring constant in which K can be set to an optional value. Therefore, as the displacement value x increases, a worker or operator feels a larger reaction force. It is possible to use not only the displacement value x but also the speed and acceleration to compute a reaction force.